

Memorandum

Date: February 28, 2002

To: California Bay-Delta Public Advisory Committee

From: Gary Hunt

Chair

Subject: Chair's Report – Action: Adopt Committee Priorities, Actions and Meeting Schedule

Summary

At the December 5, 2001 Committee meeting several members suggested we address issues, such as future CALFED governance, that transcend the priorities of the individual subcommittees. The draft priorities, as presented below and on the March 12 meeting agenda, is a list of Committee priorities that I expect will be discussed during 2002. Background information is attached and additional detail will be presented at the meeting.

I recommend the Committee adopt the draft priorities, related Committee actions and a meeting schedule.

Background

Several members suggested at the December 5, 2001 meeting the Committee address future CALFED governance, a future California water bond and the Committee role in communicating with Congress and the State Legislature. Based on that input and events that have transpired since the meeting I recommend the Committee adopt the following priorities, in addition to the Subcommittee priorities:

Address:

- 1. Federal Authorization Legislation
- 2. CALFED Future Governance
- 3. Water Operations
- 4. California Water Bond

CALFED Agencies

California

The Resources Agency
Department of Water Resources
Department of Fish and Game
The Reclamation Board
Delta Protection Commission
Department of Conservation
San Francisco Bay Conservation
and Development Commission

California Environmental Protection Agency State Water Resources Control Board Department of Health Services Department of Food and Agriculture

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Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Fish and Wildlife Service
Geological Survey
Bureau of Land Management
Environmental Protection Agency
Army Corps of Engineers

Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Forest Service
Department of Commerce
National Marine Fisheries Service
Western Area Power Administration

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- 1. Federal Authorization Legislation Attachment A is a summary prepared by CALFED Program staff, of the three bills, introduced into Congress: H.R. 3208 (Calvert), S.1768 (Feinstein), and H.R. 2404 (Miller). Updates on their status will be reported at the meeting.
- 2. CALFED Future Governance Attachment B (bound separately) is a summary, prepared by staff, of SB 1653 (Costa) and a copy of the introduced bill. We will discuss the bill with Senator Costa on March 12.
- 3. Water Operations Currently CALFED agencies are engaged in intense discussions regarding operation of the State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP) and deliveries to state and federal contractors. On March 12 Secretary for Resources Mary Nichols and U.S. Department of Interior Assistant Secretary for Water and Science Bennett Raley will update the Committee on the status of the discussions.
- 4. California Water Bond Attachment C (bound separately) includes two efforts for a water bond initiative for the November 2002, ballot: SB 1710 (Costa) and the "Water Security, Clean Drinking Water, Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002". In addition to the Act, which is being circulated for signatures, this attachment includes a summary, prepared by Program staff. Updates will be provided at the meeting.

Committee discussion of these draft priorities will identify Committee actions or tasks for 2002. We will also adopt a meeting schedule for 2002, based on the Committee and Subcommittee priorities and Committee actions or tasks. Program staff will provide us with a proposed meeting schedule on March 12.

Action

The Committee will adopt Committee priorities, actions and a meeting schedule.

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